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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/2/2009 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 3/2/2009, with respect to claims 1-6
and 23-30 have been fully considered and are persuasive in conjunction with the
Examiner's Amendment below. The rejection of claims 1-6 and 23-30 has been
withdrawn

Response to Amendment

- Claims 7-22 have been cancelled.
- Claims 1, 4-6 and 23-27 have been amended.

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5. Claim 31 has been added.

6. Claims 1-6 and 23-31 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

 In light of Applicant's amendment, the previous 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph rejection of claims 24-26 have been withdrawn.

FXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

8. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with 5/7/2009 on Michael Rodriguez.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A method for protecting a computing device from potentially harmful code in a document, the method comprising:

receiving a data structure representation of the document;

providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful active content in an editable configuration file, each definition identifying potentially harmful active content and specifying an action to be performed on that potentially harmful active content if that potentially harmful active content is found in the document;

dynamically editing by a user the editable configuration file by adding a new definition

parsing the editable configuration file to generate a data structure representation of the one or more definitions in the editable configuration file;

comparing the data structure representation of the document with the data structure representation of the one or more definitions of potentially harmful active content to identify potentially harmful active content within the document; and

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modifying the document to render harmless any identified potentially harmful active content before presenting the document to the computing device.

Here ends the Examiner's Amendment to the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 1-6 and 23-31 are allowed over the prior art for the reasons detailed in the Applicant's Remarks of 3/2/2009. As mentioned in the interview summary, the newly added limitation of "dynamically editing by a user the editable configuration file by adding a new definition" overcomes the prior art of Barber which is silent in regards to the user selecting and customizing the definitions of potentially malicious document content.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WILLIAM S. POWERS whose telephone number is (571)272-8573. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on 571 272 3811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/W. S. P./ Examiner, Art Unit 2434 William S. Powers Examiner Art Unit 2434

5/7/2009

/Kambiz Zand/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2434